

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re patent application of: |) | |
| |) | Confirmation No.: 9392 |
| Boyd et al. |) | |
| |) | |
| Application No.: 10/749,640 |) | Examiner: Juliana Nancy Harvey |
| |) | |
| Filed: December 31, 2003 |) | Group Art Unit: 4153 |
| |) | |
| Title: Dynamic Spinal Stabilization System) | | December 3, 2009 |

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop AF
 Hon. Commissioner of Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please consider the following in response to the Final Office Action mailed on October 5, 2009. This response is being filed within the initial two-month period (to and including December 5, 2009), so the modified extension of time practice applies. No extension of time is presently required for this response. However, if an extension is necessary, Applicants request that the Commissioner provide such extension and deduct any associated fees from Deposit Account 13-0014.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically filed via the Electronic Filing System (EFS) of The United States Patent and Trademark Office on December 3, 2009

(Date of Deposit)

Michael D. Beck
 Name of person filing Document or Fee

/Michael D. Beck/
 Signature

December 3, 2009
 Date of Signature